

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

U of M School of Music professor Fernando A. Meza to host Marimba 2010 International Festival and Conference

MINNEAPOLIS/ST. PAUL (3/23/10) – University of Minnesota School of Music professor Fernando A. Meza will host the *Marimba 2010 International Festival and Conference* from Wednesday, April 28 through Saturday, May 1, 2010. *Marimba 2010* will bring innovative marimba artists from more than 20 countries to the Twin Cities for the common purpose of celebrating the marimba in its many formats around the world.

Marimba 2010's artistic partners include prestigious Twin Cities organizations: the Minnesota Orchestra, The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, VocalEssence, the Schubert Club, Southern Theater, University of Minnesota School of Music, Frederick R. Weisman Art Museum, and Minnesota Public Radio.

The festival will present leading marimba artists Eric Sammut, Katarzyna Mycka, Nancy Zeltsman, She-e Wu, Gordon Stout, Momoko Kamiya, Pedro Carneiro, and Marimba Nandayapa among more than 40 others at the Ted Mann Concert Hall with the generous support of the General Mills Foundation, the Youth Orchestra of the Americas, Minnesota Percussion Association, the French Consulate in Chicago, College of Liberal Arts, Office of International Programs, European Studies, Consortium for the Study of the Asias, and Institute for Global Studies at the University of Minnesota, and the Mexican Consulate in St. Paul as well as the artistic partners listed above.

The festival will present approximately 21 recitals and 3 lecture/demonstrations at Ted Mann Concert Hall, which will be available to festival registrants (for registration information, please visit the festival's website www.marimba2010.org). The opening concert on Wednesday, April 28 at 7:30 p.m. at Ted Mann Concert Hall, as well as a program on Thursday April 29 at 11:00 a.m. at the Weisman Art Museum is free and open to the public.

Educational sessions will be presented in schools in the larger metropolitan area and as well as 9 concerts with the artistic partners at various locations in the Twin Cities including: *Concerto No.2 for Marimba and Orchestra* by renowned marimba virtuoso Nebojsa Jovan Zivkovic at Orchestra Hall with the Minnesota Orchestra on April 29, 30, and May 1; *So Percussion* at the Southern Theater on April 29 and 30; *Janus Percussion* at the Landmark Center as part of the Schubert Club's Courtroom Concert Series at noon on April 29; *Engine 408 Series* at the SPCO Center on April 29 and May 1; and *Mallets and Melodies* at the St. Paul Cathedral with Philip Brunelle and VocalEssence.

Festival artistic director and host Fernando Meza describes the festival as “a once-in-a-lifetime event featuring the best artists globally and locally, and an uplifting musical occasion to rejoice and experience the cultural richness of this wonderful instrument worldwide.”

For a complete schedule of events and artist roster, visit www.marimba2010.org or call (612) 626-1094 for a brochure and more information.

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